ACHIEVEMENT IN ALL LINES OF ENDEAVOR IN WASHINGTON

Every Branch of the District Government Has Succeeded in Effort to Make Improvements During Busy Year.

THE COURTS.

charged with larceny, 17 with assaults and 11 with forgery.

Four local laundrymen entered pleas of nolo contendre to an indictment charging a conspiracy to defraud the United States by agreeing on the prices to be bid for the service of cleaning to be bid for the service of cleaning to weils for use in various departments of the government. Fines aggregating \$1,250 were imposed. Louis Levy paid \$500 and F. W. McKenzie, C. F. Sowers and T. H. Marshall each \$250.

One of the most important indictments returned by the grand jury during the year charged thirty-one local commission merchants with conspiring to raise the price of foodstuffs. At the of a commission merchants with conspiring to raise the price of foodstuffs. At the outbreak of the European conflict complaint was made to the Department of Justice that the war was being made the pretext for boosting the price of foods. President Wilson directed an inquiry, and Assistant United States Attorney Hawken laid the matter before the grand buy and the indistruction. nominee for the office of a civil Commissioner of the District of Columbia. The latter sustained the right of the Commissioners to make regulations prohibiting the playing on Sunday of ase ball or other games at which ad-

prohibiting the playing on Sunday of base ball or other games at which admission is charged.

During the year there were docketed in the court 189 appeals from other tribunals. A total of seventy-seven cases was brought over from the preceding year. There are now remaining unheard on the calendar sixty-four cases.

The changes in the personnel of the Supreme Court of the District of Columbia and the rendering of an ouster judgment by that tribunal against Oliver P. Newman, president of the board of District Commissioners, on a proceeding in quo warranto brought by a taxpayer are the most striking features of a review of the happenings of the year 1914 in local judicial circles. Never before in its history of fifty-one years has the District Supreme Court sustained the changes that marked the past twelvemonth.

Death of Justice Clabaugh.

Inquiry, and Assistant United States Attorney Hawken laid the matter before the grand jury and the indictments at the part which addition of Groore the Wright investigating committee of the House of Representatives caused the lodging with the grand jury of a charge of embezzlement against Attorney William E. Ambrose, who had been receiver of the First Co-operative Building Association of Georgetown. Two indictions were returned against the law-yer charging that he had misappropriated about \$4,000 belonging to an estate.

Four other lawyers were indicted during the year on charges of using money of clients. William B. Reilly, Creed M. Fulton and Michael W. Sullivan are on bail awaiting trial on these charges. David Rothschild has never been located. Two bankers were also indicted for embezzlement and larceny after trust. These allegations are made against J. William Henry and Benjamin W. Woodruff, formerly trading as Lewis Johnson & Co.

Returned 470 Indictments.

Returned 470 Indictments

During the year the grand jury re-

ignored by the grand jurors in twenty-

Litigation was on the decline in 1914

Only 803 suits in equity were begun, as

SOCIETY.

There was no reception at the White

established custom, and the usual New

merce and Postmaster General. The Congressional Club began its New Year program by a reception at the old club house, followed by a series of evening receptions and dances supple-mented by afternoon lectures and mu-

The sudden death of Harry M. Clabaugh, third chief justtice of the court, early in March, was followed June 8 by the voluntary retirement of Assoed on that day the age of seventy years. Then came the impeachment inquiry by order of the House of Representatives against Associate Justice Daniel Thew Wright, which culminated in his resignation from the bench to take up the practice of thelaw. President Wilson appointed J. Harry Covington, then a representative in Congress from Maryland, to succeed Chief Justice Clabaugh, and Walter I. McCoy of New Jersey, who had been chairman of the Wright investigating committee, to take the place of Justice Barnard. As the successor of Justice Wright the President selected Frederick L. Siddons of the District of Columbia, who was serving as District Commissioner, at the time of his appointment. The resignation of Justice Wright was immediately followed by the dropping of the charges against him.

The ouster judgment against Mr. Newman was rendered in July, after a jury of twelve citizens had heard his testimony in response to the allegation that he was ineligible to hold the office of District Commissioner, a the time of papers filed was established in 1914 in the office of the recorder of deeds. November 30, the day before the presyears. Then came the impeachment inquiry by order of the House of Representatives against Associate Justice Daniel Thew Wright, which culminated in his resignation from the bench to

against him.

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Newman was rendered in July, after a
jury of twelve citizens had heard his
testimony in response to the allegation that he was ineligible to hold the temporary and that he always enter-tained the intention to return, but the jury decided against him and rendered a verdict that he was "usurping" the office of Commissioner. Mr. Newman prosecuted an appeal from this finding to the District Court of Appeals and the case was argued by counsel in that tribunal last month. A decision by the appellate court is expected early in Jan-uary.

Office of District Attorney.

The term of office of Clarence R. Wil son as United States attorney for the District of Columbia expired in April, but he was requested to hold office un- House January 1, 1914, but the Secretil the expiration of the court year in tary of State and Mrs. Bryan enter-July. Difficulty encountered by the De- tained the diplomatic corps at breakpartment of Justice in reaching a de- fast on that date, carrying out a longcision on his successor kept Mr. Wilson in office until November, when John
E. Laskey's appointment as United
States attorney was confirmed by the Senate. With the retirement of Mr. ken, chief prosecutor in the office, also tendered his resignation, but was persuaded by United States Attorney Laskey to reconsider the matter and remain under the new administration.

Mr. Laskey appointed as assistants James B. Archer and Charles W. Arth. In the office of the recorder of deeds a change in the head official was also made last July. President Wilson requested the resignation of Henry Lincoccupied during the present year, and concupied during the present year, and made last July. President Wilson requested the resignation of Henry Lincoln Johnson, colored, who had been recorder under republican rule. Deputy Recorder Robert W. Dutton has been since in charge of the administration of the office as acting recorder. No nomination for the recordership has been made by the President.

The new nome of the Remains of Club, at 17th and K streets, was also occupied during the present year, and has entered into the season's social life.

White House Receptions.

A series of evening receptions was held at the White House last January

Criminal Trials.

the year 1914 shows that no one was

ing the year charged with the highest crime known to the law. Four were convicted of murder in the second degree and noe of manslaughter. The sixth man was acquitted by order of the court.

Life imprisonment was the sentence imposed on Clarence Rowree, convicted of second degree murder in connection with the death of Joseph Content of the court.

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Artillery Corps, and Miss Helen Humphrey and Mr. Percy Lawton Harley, in June; Miss Helen Heyl and Lieut. Milo Pitcher Fox. U. S. N.; Miss Marith Bowers and Mr. Robert Taft, Miss Frida Tillman and Mr. Lawrence E. Frazer and Miss Louise Hellen and Mr. Thomas Bowers, in October; Miss Mary Morris McCauley and Lieut. Herbert S. Howard, U. S. N.; Miss Marguerite Le Breton and Mr. Ralph Stuart, Ranisford, in November: Miss Lella Harrison and Lieut. Geoffrey Keyes, U. S. A.; Miss Doris Haywood and Dr. Howard Hume, Mrs. Maude Lesher and Lieut. Clyde Gray West, U. S. N.; Miss Florace Schneider and Mr. Thomas G. There were 2,795 "consultatives." The paid workers made 16,000 visits, and the social service exchange was used by 100 agencies, such as churches.

The Martha Jefferson breakfast tendered to the late Mrs. Woodrow Wilson was given at Rauscher's Thursday

among those who gave large receptions, balls and dances were the British and Austrian ambassadors, Representative and Mrs. Peter G. Gerry, Mrs. Joseph Leiter, Mrs. James F. Mitchell, Senator and Mrs. Walsh, Mrs. Clarence

POLITICS.

ditions marked the closing months of came on in November for the choice of a new House of Representatives and gubernatorial and other elections were held in a number of states.

Material changes are always expected after the first election following a presidential campaign, when the pendulum is likely to swing backward from the point marked in the great national contest. This year it swung backward with momentum. The overwhelming democratic majority in the lower branch of Congress was reduced from 147 to approximately 30.

While this terrific reversal of form occurred in the lower House the administration made gains in the Senate. The democrats had been working upon a very narrow margin in the Senate, so meager, in fact, that at times it was dangerous. The President and his supporters were highly gratified, therefore, to have that majority increased by eight and felt that they could stand with equanimity the tearing down of the unwieldy majority in the House if compensated by a gain in the Senate.

to have had its effect.

Ohio, which has been under democratic control for some years, returned
to the republican fold by electing a republican governor. Right away this
started talk of presidential possibilities and the two comparatively young
governors, Whitman of New York and
Willis of Ohio, were entered in the
lists of possible presidential candidates. Massachusetts stood pat upon her

democrat. In that state, also, the re-ligious question figured, and the cam-paign was marked with considerable greeting of the schools at

Connecticut revolutionized its political adherence, giving heavy majorities tional and state. In Illinois a most exciting campaign was waged over the United States senatorship, the republican incumbent winning. For the first time in many years ar anti-democratic representative was returned from a southern state—Louisi

ana. Resenting the destruction of sugar industry in that state, the de crats sent a progressive republican to

crats sent a progressive republican to the House.

From the point of view of human interest, the return of several old-line republican wheel horses were incidents of the election. "[Incle Joe" Cannon, Ebenezer J. Hill, William B. McKinley, Rodenberg of Illinois and Cy Sulloway of New Hampshire were sent back to the House. The overwhelming majority which Senator Boles Penrose of Pennsylvania received for re-election added to the joy of the "Old Guard." Paradoxical as it may seem, the democrats and the republicans were both well pleased with the results of the elections, each side claiming that evening receptions and dances supplemented by afternoon lectures and musicals lasting until the late spring.

A house-warming reception at the new home of the Congressional Club, 2001

New Hampshire avenue, was held the evening of December 17, and will be followed by other evening and afternoon receptions throughout the season

CHARITIES.

aiding the less fortunate during the last year. The cry of the Belgian starving and freezing touched hearts of District residents, and about and February and an occasional mu-\$10,000 has been contributed in cash here for their relief. The District comsical, also in the afternoon. The usual A review of the criminal trials for state dinners were also held. The mittee established under the direction of Mrs. John A. Logan has collected convicted of murder in the first degree.
Six persons were placed on trial dursix persons were placed on trial durand the Secretary of the Treasury.

\$1,000 in cash to the Belgian minister. ing the year charged with the highest crime known to the law. Four were convicted of murder in the second de-

In cases mentioned. The specially deservible cases mentioned with a many ways the schools were more thanking reading the special policy of the fight and the special policy of t orphange, the American Jewish organizations of the city united and authorized collections for the relief of the Hebrew people in the warring countries and in Palestine, with large contributions made at a mass meeting; the Young Women's Hebrew Association organized for charity work and Jederation of all the Hebrew charity associations have been planned; Catholic Knights held a donation day for St. Joseph's orphanage, an important con-

a very narrow margin in the Senate, so meager, in fact, that at times it was dangerous. The President and his supporters were highly gratified, therefore, to have that majority increased by eight and felt that they could stand with equanimity the tearing down of the unwieldy majority in the House if compensated by a gain in the Senate.

Interest in New York.

Intense interest was manifested in the campaign in New York state, where the republicans made smashing gains. The fight in the Empire state was a very bitter one and involved features of political interest which had not appeared in American politics for many years. The religious feature was injected into the situation and is said to have had its effect.

Ohio, which has been under democratic control for some years returned.

THE SCHOOLS.

THE SCHOOLS.

"Educational Progress" 1914. Administrative matters have repaign was marked with considerable acrimony.

One of the most interesting features of the nation-wide campaign was the notable slump in the bull moses vote. Several changes in the courses of notable slump in the bull moses vote. Several changes in the courses of study have been effected. Methods and scope of vocational education for the schools of Washington have been given great attention. Actual work in vocational training has been carried on with renewed interest. Conferences to consider plans for this form of education have been called by Ernest L. Thurston, the superintendent. Supt. Thurston adopted a policy of regular and frequent meetings with his supervisory and general officers.

or less seriously handicapped. None ably, than the Western High School fire, which so completely ruined the building as to render it wholly unfit dissociations have been planned; Catholic Knights held a donation day for St.

Joseph's orphanage, an important conference of the Catholic charities was held at the Catholic University, the self of buildings the schools have suffered greatly from overcrowding. Numerous school improvements were temporarily delayed by lack of funds. Sevporarily delayed by lack of funds. Several teachers were caught in the "war zone" of Europe, but no serious inconvenience was caused, as the number was small and the delay but slight in most instances. Changes in obtaining certain school supplies formerly obtained from foreign countries had to be made on account of the war, however.

Ernest L. Thurston was elected as was appointed as assistant superinas supervising principal of the third aged to escape. division to fill the vacancy caused by Not much was known of either man, the promotion of Mr. Kramer. Ernest and the night "Mule" Dawson, as the H. Daniel and W. T. Galliher were reappointed by the Supreme Court of the District as members of the board of education and Mrs. Coralie F. Cook was chosen to succeed Mrs. Caroline W. Harris, who retired from the board at the expiration of her term. Maj. Wallach A. McCathran, N. G. D. C., was chosen temporary instructor for the high schools cadet regiment and Mrs. Frank Byram was named as director alleged slayer. Detectives were sent Frank Byram was named as director of music temporarily to fill the va-cancy caused by the resignation of Dr. W. L. Tomlins. W. L. Tomlins.

High school cadets broadened the scope of their work. In the annual competitive drills of the white and colored cadets Company E of Business High School and Company F of M Street High School were the respective winners.

WITH THE POLICE.

ment displayed more than an ordinary amount of interest became effective during the past year. One was the

PLAYGROUNDS ACTIVITIES IN 1914.

The playgrounds, for the first time, last year were open at some grounds during January and February, the regular season opening March I.

The base ball leagues of the public schools were organized in March and April by the playground workers and completed the season in June. Nine leagues, averaging eight teams, played. Monroe School won the city championship.

The division athletic meets and the city championship meet were successfully carried out in June.

E. J. Garmhausen, director of Rosedale playground, resigned June 1.

During the summer months the regular playground base

ball leagues were organized, and played until September 1. The District bill, passed July 14, carried the first appropriation for swimming pools on playgrounds, and marks an era of greater activity and usefulness for the playgrounds.

Two new playgrounds, one at Bruen Home and one at Montessori School, were operated from July 1 to October 1.

A survey of the District was begun October 15 to ascertain present facilities and future needs for playgrounds and recreation. E. B. De Groot of Chicago, secretary of the Chicago Playground Association, and Dr. F. A. McKenzie of Ohio State University, former president of the public recreation commission of Columbus, Ohio, are assisting in this work. Assistant Engineer Commissioner R. G. Powell and the supervisor of playgrounds, with these men, are making the survey for the federal children's bureau and the Commissioners.

Miss Ellen Hope Wilson, for nearly three years connected with the playground department, resigned to accept a position in New York city schools as a supervisor of physical

Willow Tree alley has been fitted up as a playground and is ready to open March 1, if teachers are provided to operate the ground. Unless an item is included in the present budget no ground can be maintained there.

A play festival marked the closing of the most successful summer season. It was directed by Miss May Roper, and held on the Monument lot September 16.

A play station was opened November 1 in Zoological Park. It has proved one of the most popular grounds.

Establishment of classes on the school playgrounds for children who had been kept back in school was probably the most important step taken on these playgrounds this year. Industrial work was carried on as in previous years, but the classes in regular school studies were an innovation this year. As a result of the benefits derived from them it is probable that additional classes may be established during the season

Two playgrounds were added to the number in 1913. making a total of seventeen. Several changes were made in the location of grounds. Numerous exhibition and field days suppress vice, and the other was the

Joy riders caused much annoyance to the police during the year. Scores of automobiles were borrowed by them. Some were taken far away from the city, while others were abandoned after a joy ride in and about the city. after a joy ride in and about the city. All the automobiles taken by such persons were recovered, some in good condition and others much the worse for rough trips taken by the borrow-

were given much annoyance by pocket book snatchers and hold-up men. Many persons were held up on the streets and robbed, but none was severely were apprehended, but search for the

hold-up men proved futile.

Early in the year several robberies committed by professional crooks claimed the attention of the police. Several thousand dollars' worth of jewelry was taken in those instances, ever.

Work was started on the new Central High School and the site for the new Eastern High School selected. The new colored normal school was completed and put into use. After a long delay the white normal school was officially dedicated.

Claimed the attention of the several thousand dollars' worth of jewelry was taken in those instances, and their owners were not fortunate enough to have the police recover it Much other property was recovered.

Alleged Slayers Escape.

chool superintendent for three years, the alleged slayers were captured beginning July 1. Stephen E. Kramer Ennis Dawson, alias "Mule," and William Stark, alias "Cincinnati Red," tendent and R. L. Haycock was chosen both colored were the ones who man-

alleged slayer. Detectives were sent to see the prisoners, but sall managed to establish their identity and were released. Stark stabbed John Wesley, a resident of Armory place southwest, it was charged, and inflicted wounds which proved fatal.

One of the most daring crimes of the year involved the assault and robbery committed in the office of the Metropolitan Coach Company, 1112 15th street northwest, August 26, about noon. A former employe of the company and a companion, who are alleged to have committed the assault and robbery, were not caught.

Numerous petty swindlers operated games of all kinds and succeeded in getting sums of money from unsuspecting persons. Many offenders were arrested and many others eluded the police. The police made a number of presents of nother jurisdic-

While no complaints of drunkenness growing out of the sale of the so-called near-beer were made by the police, it was deemed expedient by the police to keep close watch on such places on Sunday.

POLICE COURT.

There were more than 30,000 informations filed in the Police Court during the past year. This is an increase of about 500 over the year 1913. Of the informations, about 23,783 were filed in the District branch and about 5,510 in the United States branch. Fines and forfeltures aggregating more than \$107,000 were collected by William Rodkins, financial clerk.

The principal offenses for which persons were arraigned in the District branch of the court were for drunkenness, disorderly conduct, violations of police regulations and vagrancy. The violations for which the majority of persons were charged in the United

The most disastrous fire in the month of July occurred in a two-story brick will be more than stop, talloring establishment and storage plant, sustained losses aggregating \$17,500 when visited by fire May 26.

June 9, at 2:45 o'clock in the morning of May 26 the destruction of four houses on Kenliworth, involved the sulcidens of carelessness, while others were selzed with cramps while swimming. Dr. Charles Stanley White, who served as deputy coroner for a number of years, resigned his position Decembers and storage plant, sustained losses aggregating \$17,500 when visited by fire May 26.

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The vacancy was filled by the appointment of Dr. William B. Carr, whose father formerly held the position of coroner.

An unusual happening during the year involved the suicide of two prisoners who committed suicide, while the patients who were killed were Philip Mould of July occurred in a two-story brick and Louis Wolf.

Board of Trade, Chamber of Commerce, Retail Merchants, Citizens' Associations and Other Bodies Led Betterment Campaigns.

States branch of the court were for assault and petit larceny.

Judges Alexander R. Mullowny and James L. Pugh presided in the courts during the past year. Since April 1

Judge Mullowny occupied the bench in the United States branch and Judge Pugh in the District branch. They obange courts on April 1 of each year.

C. A. Massie and Miss Estell Foster are the probation officers connected with the court, and during the past year have had under their charge more than 450 probationers. These officers were appointed in October, 1912, for a term of two years. When their terms expired last October the judges reappointed them.

The cases in the United States branch have been prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorneys Ralph Given and John Weyrich, while Assistant Corporation Coursellor Coursel George Taggart

American Ice Company Fire.

FIRES OF THE YEAR.

to considerably more than \$700,000, the heaviest losses being recorded for the month of April, when the Western High School was destroyed, the aggregate losses that month amounting to \$164,341. Alarms sounded during the year, including bell and still alarms, aggregated something more than one thousand, and about seventy of them proved false.

Many members of the department sustained minor burns and injuries, but not a single death occurred in the ranks as a result of such injuries. Persons who lost their lives as a result of fires were Eleanor Turner, Joseph Finamaro, Miss Annie T. Murphy, Miss Ida A. Cannon, Miss Katie Toler and Frank Lawson. Harry Russell, Alexander Craige, Benjamin Archer and William Stark were scalded to death as a result of an accident to a boiler. Members of the department who died during the year were Capt. T. T. Warren and Private W. J. Nelson, Fire Members of the department who died during the year were Capt. T. T. Warren and Private W. J. Nelson. Fire Marshal Nicholson's records show that four arrests for arson were made and that a number of supposed incendiary fires occurred. Four fires at Howard University suggested to the fire marshal that an incendiary was at work there.

Motor Companies Installed.

Four motor companies were installed during the year and motor vehicles vere provided for S. R. Henry, second battalfon chief: Charles B. Proctor. third battalion chief, and P. W. Nicholson, fire marshal. No. 1 chemical company, at Benning, was converted Firefighter responded to a call from car accidents were not numerous Alexandria and assisted in extinguish-

American Ice Company Fire. The stable of the American Ice Com

pany at 15th and E streets northeast was destroyed the morning of September 27 and fifteen horses were cremated More than \$10,000 damage resulted. A fire in a brick dormitory at Howard University October 20 did \$4,000, no other fire during that month involv-

ner, had work enough to keep him busy involved police assistance. It was need ance in the score of homicides that of curred during the twelve months, nearly threescore of suicides and approxi-mately 175 accidental deaths. Certificates of death from various causes, including cases in which bodies were cremated, aggregated something like 1,400. Beginning January 1 with the killing the police and coroner found it necessary, at Benning, was converted a steam fire engine company. Several times during the year the department responded to calls from places in Showed a decided decrease as compared with the time prior to the construction of Union station, and, it is stated, street Alexandria and assisted in extinguish-numerous deaths during the year, those investigated by the police and corone Charles W. Gill, president of the Fire-

cepart games of all kinds and succeeded in getting sums of money from usual pecting persons. Many offender gazed in active work in the matter of police. The police made a number of police. The police made a number of getting a restoration of street carrests of persons for other jurisdictions.

Arrests for the twelve months aggregated 37,056, those for drunkenness reaching 9,050. During the year Maj. Sylvester added one motor cycle to the mounted force in the county. Additional patrol boxes were located in the county in order to better safeguard residents of the suburban sections, and modern steel cells were constructed in one police station to take the place of the insanitary cells.

Very few changes of importance were made in the personnel of the department during the twelve months. Congress sands no provision for increases, very few were retired, and only one officer of higher rank, Capt. Michael Byrnes, died. E. Flather of the fourth precinct. Capt. John C. Daley of the ninth precinct was retired. He was succeeded by a promotion sive with their families are the three things of the very few was retired. He was succeeded by a promotion sive with their families are the three things of the county. Additional patrol boxes promoted to the variety of the organization, have addressed many clitters from the matter of getting a restoration of street car and sisolabored hard to induce the provide a substantial aid from the religious department of the Y. M. A. former Commissioner H. B. F. Macfariand joining the forces and provision between motor truck and bicycle; Pearl to the public. George M. Kirk, director of the firm the public development with the firm the public development with the provide a substantial aid from the religious department of the Y. M. C. A. religious work, defined the public development with the public development with the provide a substantial aid from the river from the matter of the fact provide a substantial aid from the religious department of the Y. M. C. A. former Commissioner H. B. F. Macfa

leight. C. Flather of the fourth Leight. C. was promested to the court of the survey promested to the survey promested t

were made homeless.

Fire at King's Palace.

King's Palace was visited by fire May
10. The fire started shortly after 1
o'clock in the morning and did damage
estimated at \$37,700, and the following
day the Kimono Shop. 1316 F street
northwest, was damaged to the amount
of \$5,400.

At 1.20 o'clock the morning of May 26
of carelessness, while others were